

Setting the Scene

Monarchs Edward VII, his son George V. Prime ministers: Herbert H Asquith, 1915 Coalition, David Lloyd George.

London Palladium music hall opens. National Insurance provides unemployment benefits and healthcare. Shops Act 1911 allows a weekly half-holiday for shop staff. British MPs to receive salaries for the first time. More than 1500 die in 1912 in the ocean-going RMS Titanic. Several thousand women evade being recorded in the census as a protest against the lack of women's suffrage. Woman's Weekly magazine launched. The remaining members of Scott's Antarctic expedition die. 1912 the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) is established. The Morris Oxford 2-seater car goes on sale. The Thirty-nine Steps by John Buchan is published. World War I is fought between 1914 and 1918. More than one million soldiers die in the Battle of the Somme. 1917 bread rationing is introduced. Women's Royal Naval Service is established. In 1918 the Royal Air Force is formed from merging The Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service. 1918 ration books are introduced for butter, margarine, lard, meat and sugar. British Summer Time started during the War to extend daylight working time and make savings in lighting costs. 11 November 1918 World War I ends. In 1918 the first national election in the UK allows women over 30 to vote or stand for Parliament, and the male franchise is extended (for men the age is 21). Dr Marie Stopes' books Married Love and Wise Parenthood are published. Nancy Astor becomes the first woman to take her seat in the House of Commons, and the second woman MP to be elected. 1919 meat rationing ends. Photographs are used on British passports for the first time.

Locally American-born aviation pioneer Samuel Franklin Cody is killed with his passenger (English cricketer William Evans) when his Cody Floatplane breaks up in a flight from Farnborough, Hampshire. The Sopwith Camel biplane fighter aircraft makes its maiden flight at Brooklands. The book Peter Pan by J. M. Barrie expands into the novel Peter and Wendy. (It was in Farnham, whilst living at Black Lake Cottage near Tilford, that supposedly inspired the author to write Peter Pan.)

Rowhills Estate, Heath End

During the Edwardian period, Heath End and Hale had been growing. Building work stopped during the Great War, restarting again in 1918. It was not easy getting raw materials and there were labour shortages.

On 2nd April 1911 the census was taken. One out of every seven employed persons was a domestic servant. The census included how many rooms in a dwelling and how many years a couple had been married. There was a column for entering the number of children born with columns for those children still alive and those deceased. In theory, households completed the 1911 census for themselves since a good proportion of the population could read and write.

We'll start following the 1911 census at the Royal Arms which had 16 rooms, now a much larger establishment since 1901.

Robert James Wiley	Head	Mar	44		Licensed Victualler	Own account
Clara Jane Wiley	Wife	Mar		43	Assisting in the business	
William John Wiley	Son	Sing	16		Assisting in the business	
Clara Victoria Mary	Dau	Sing		13	Assisting in the business	
Doris I Oldershaw	Visitor	Sing		13	Assisting in the business	
Phoebe Wilson	Servant	Sing		19	Assisting in the business	Worker

The Wiley parents had been married 23 years and of their four children, three were still alive. Their first-born child Sydney Robert Curtis Wiley had been born in India and died aged two in the parish of St Germans, Cornwall. Robert James Wiley had enlisted into the Army in 1883 into the 5th Battalion Royal Fusiliers. He had said his trade was a carman when he enlisted and that he was prepared to serve for a term of 12 years. He was 17 when he enlisted but the form said "Age apparently" and 19 years 6 months was written down.

P. 2
8400
Duplicate
C. E. Miles

SHORT SERVICE. Army Form B. 263.

STATION OF *Robert James Wiley*
 ne *Robert James Wiley*
 Corps *General Service Infantry*
 Joined at *Redburn*
 on *16th January 1883.*

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment

1. What is your Name?.....	1. <i>Robert James Wiley</i>
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born?	2. In the Parish of <i>St Martin</i> or near the Town of <i>London</i> in the County of <i>W. Middlesex</i>
3. What is your Age?	3. <i>19</i> Years <i>6</i> Months
4. What is your Trade or Calling?.....	4. <i>Carman</i>
5. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? if so, where? to whom? and for what period?.....	5. <i>No</i>
6. Have you resided out of your Father's house for three months continuously in the same place, or occupied a house or land of the yearly value of £10 for one year, and paid rates for the same, and, in either case,.....	6. <i>No</i>

Description of *Robert James Wiley* on Enlistment.

Age apparently <i>19</i> years <i>6</i> months.	Distinctive Marks
Age physically equivalent to <i>19</i> years <i>6</i> months.	
Height <i>5</i> feet <i>5 1/2</i> inches.	<i>None</i>
Weight <i>133</i> lbs.	
Chest Measurement <i>33</i> inches.	
Complexion <i>Fresh</i>	
Eyes <i>Blue</i>	
Hair <i>Dark Brown</i>	
Religious denomination <i>Church of England</i>	

The couple's three living children were born in Dublin and Newry, Ireland. Robert left the armed services in 1901 and became a licensed victualler. However, war was announced in 1914 and he re-enlisted into the Army Reserve (Special Reservists), Devonshire Regiment Corps. He stated that he had been living at his father's address at the Bath Hotel, Westwood Ho, Devon for 3 years. (Well, not exactly true.) He also reported that he had left the Army in 1901 on an Army pension due to being medically unfit. Robert served for his country again, was promoted from Private to Sergeant in 1917 with his notes commending him for good work during the war.

After the Wiley family moved out of the Royal Arms, in moved the family of Frederick James Bollen. In 1891 Frederick had been a Corporal in the Medical Staff Corps at Portsea, Portsmouth and by 1911 he was a Sergeant Major at the McGrigor Barracks, Stanhope Lines, Aldershot, serving with the Royal Army Medical Corps. The Stanhope Lines formed the reconstructed South Camp and it was named after Mr J Stanhope, Secretary of State for War 1887-1892.

1911 England Census for Frederick Bollen				
Surrey > Aldershot > ALL > 13				
10	Frederick Bollen	Sergeant Major	43	Married



This sketch of the Stanhope Lines shows the early Victorian camp, with wooden huts, prior to Henry Wells building the brick replacements.

Frederick Bollen

Charlotte Bollen



Frederick Bollen was married with four children alive and one baby deceased. He was a Publican at the Royal Arms for some while so we will meet him again.

Before we leave the Royal Arms, stealing a bicycle is not such an issue in history but it is understanding how theft was dealt with that has our interest. In 1912, Edward Shefford, Royal Field Artillery, was charged with stealing a bicycle worth £5 from outside the Royal Arms. The bicycle belonged to a Corporal of the Royal Army Medical Corps. Shefford said he did not know the bicycle belonged to a soldier and he hoped he would 'get his ticket' for the offence. Lieutenant St Clair of the prisoner's barracks gave the defendant a bad character reference.

Chairman of the sentencing board "It would be a good plan for the military authorities to take such men back into the Army and send them abroad. **We get a tremendous amount of this sort of thing in Farnham.** The men want to 'get their ticket'. We have only two courses open. One is to bind them over or to send them to prison, which closes their career. There seems to be decent stuff in this man and against the enemy, he would be as good as any." The Lieutenant felt that this would not suit Commanding Officers and when asked if the Army had difficulty in getting good men, the reply was that the Army got very good men indeed. The prisoner was sentenced to two months' imprisonment with hard labour.

A 'ticket of leave' was a document of parole issued to convicts who were shown they could now be trusted with some freedoms. It was first introduced in Australia.

We can take a break from bicycle thefts to look at the 1911 census next door to the Royal Arms at the Heath End Nursery. We have met the Charman family previously so we know them.

William Henry Charman	Head	Mar	62		Nurseryman and florist	Employer
Louisa Charman	Wife	Mar		51	Assisting in the business	
William Edward Charman	Son	Sing	17		Motor mechanic	Worker
Florence Wilkinson	Dau	Sing		22	Domestic servant	

1915 was a joyous moment for the Charman family when the son William Edward Charman, now a soldier, married at Farnham Parish Church. Father William Henry Charman stated he was a Florist. (Shorter than saying Market Gardener?)

19 15 . Marriage solemnized at <i>The Parish Church</i> in the <i>Parish</i>							
of <i>Farnham</i> in the County of <i>Surrey</i>							
Column No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.
150	<i>Nov 30th</i>	<i>William Edward Charman</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Soldier</i>	<i>Abingdon Berks</i>	<i>William Henry Charman Florist</i>
	<i>19 15</i>	<i>Ella Marjorie Stewart</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>Spinster</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>Fairfield Farnham</i>	<i>William George Stewart Clerk</i>
Married in the <i>Parish Church</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <i>Established Church</i> or after <i>Banns</i> by me,							
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>William Edward Charman</i>	in the Presence of us,	<i>Wm H Charman Louisa Charman</i>	<i>Geoffrey Don Stewart</i>	<i>Donald Thomas Edma. Col.</i>	

However, two years after the family wedding William Henry Charman died in 1917 at Guys Hospital, London, aged 68. William Charman, the son could not attend the funeral because he was serving in France as a Private with the Army Service Corps.

DEATH OF MR. W. H. CHARMAN.

Much regret has been caused in the district by the death of Mr. William Henry Charman, which took place in Guy's Hospital, London, on Wednesday week, at the age of 68 years. Mr. Charman, who had been in the hospital for six weeks, had been suffering from a painful malady, and little hope was entertained of his recovery. He had resided in the district for 40 years, and during the whole of that time he had had the Heath End Nursery, which he took over in 1877 from the late Mr. William Dean. He superintended the Presbyterian Mission Hall at Heath End for 24 years. This mission was started in the village by Mr. Charman's sister, now Mrs. Piggott, who, when the family came to reside at the nursery, held a Sunday school class in the house at the nursery, and started her work with six scholars. At the time of Mr. Charman's illness there were about 100 scholars on the books. For a great number of years the deceased was a regular worshipper at the Presbyterian Church, Aldershot, but in later years, owing to indisposition, he attended at the Baptist Bethel at Hale. He was a member of the Council Schools Committee, a manager of the schools in the district, and also served on the Hale Parish Council. Deceased's son, Pte. William Edward Charman, is at present serving in France in the A.S.C. (M.T.)

The funeral took place at Hale on Wednesday afternoon. A short service, conducted by Major F. G. Kemp, S.C.F. (U.B.), was held in the Heath End Mission Hall, previous to the interment at the Hale Cemetery. The chief mourners present were: Mrs. Charman (widow), Mr. Bedford (son-in-law), Mrs. Floate (sister-in-law), Mrs. Proctor, Misses Marjorie and Dorothy Proctor (cousins), Mr. Herbert Charman (cousin). Mrs. Piggott, sister of the deceased, was unable to attend the service. Amongst those present were Capt. K. V. Bacon, J.P., Capt. Langrish, Mr. and Mrs. E. Caesar, Mr. and Mrs. W. Reavell, Mr. F. Rice, Mr. A. R. Bide, Mr. W. Trim, Miss Caesar, Mr. A. Norris, Mrs. Kemp, Mr. H. W. Grace, Miss Wallace, Mr. W. J. Swansborough, etc. A number of children also gathered round the grave, and, after the committal sentences, the minister spoke specially to them, urging them to walk worthily in the footsteps of their dear friend.

Louisa Charman, the florist, now widowed continued the business as an employer and was still involved with charitable works, such as the following in 1919 in Aldershot.

A bouquet of pink sweet peas and white roses was presented to Lady Murray, who performed the opening ceremony, by Miss Ethel Sercombe, who has been a candidate for the longest period. The bouquet was given by Mrs. Charman, of Heath End Nurseries.

At the opening ceremony the Vicar of Aldershot (the Rev. F. O. T. Hawkes) said that the Girls' Friendly Society Hostels in towns all over the country supplied the need of girls moving about from town to town for employment, giving them clean and jolly lodgings. The lodgers paid a perfectly adequate sum of money for their lodging, but it did not cover the cost of starting these institutions. It was proposed to enlarge the present Girls' Friendly Society Hostel at Aldershot by the addition of a large room at a cost of £300. Of this amount £160 had

The event was fund-raising for the Girls Friendly Society Hostel in Aldershot. The GFS had sprung up all over the country and apart from social opportunities, it offered a safe haven for young women moving around for their employment.

Just a brief encounter again with Mrs Charman when in July 1919 she was before the Farnham Bench, but she had done nothing major.

THE MUZZLING ORDER.

Mrs. Charman, of Heath End, and Mr. H. Harrington, of Upper Hale, were each fined £1 at the Farnham Bench on Thursday, for allowing dogs to be unmuzzled.

After the Heath End Nursery, we move round the corner into Rowhills Estate to the semi-detached cottages. Last time in 1901, we had 11 in the Hunter family and two in the Beare family. What has changed? Caroline Hunter should have been 66 but there was an inclination sometimes for women to forget slightly how old they were and she adjusted her age to 61.

Robert Hunter	Head	Mar	66		Carman, nurseryman	Worker
Caroline Hunter	Wife	Mar		61		
Arthur Hunter	Son	Sing	38		Gardener Jobbing	Worker
William Hunter	Son	Sing	36		Labourer (general)	Worker
Frank Hunter	Dau	Sing	30		Groom to Army Officer	Worker
Mary Hunter	Dau	Sing		26	Domestic General	
Alfred Hunter	Son	Sing	23		Groom to Army Officer	Worker
Nellie Hunter				20	Domestic General	
Kittie Reid	Grand dau			11	At school	

Little Kittie (Kathleen Elizabeth Hunter), the baby born to a single mother was still living with grandparents. Her mother Elizabeth Hunter had married Mr James Reid, a chauffeur and they had moved with their own three children to Westbury-on-Trym near Bristol. Mary Hunter had stopped living in-service in Ash and was back at home. So still plenty of mouths to feed but the adults were in employment.

Arthur Hunter had filled in the 1911 census form and stated they lived in 4 rooms.

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop. 4	I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief. Signature <i>A. Hunter</i> Postal Address <i>Heath End, Farnham, Surrey</i>
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Next door in Rowhills Cottages, there had been a funeral in March 1910 for old Mr Edward Beare (1825-1910). We had followed him working hard since 1881 as a market gardener and his beautiful headstone was placed in Hale Cemetery, Alma Lane at the far end of the immediate left-hand wall. It is well worth a visit to this delightful cemetery.

Baptism in 1825	Funeral in March 1910																					
<p>Surrey, England, Church of England Baptisms, 1813-1917 for Edward Be</p> <p>Aldershot, St Michael the Archangel > 1813-1851</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>April 26th</td> <td>Edward</td> <td>John</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Jane Maria</td> <td>Beare</td> <td>Aldershot</td> <td>Saltwater</td> <td>C. Fungus</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No. 223.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	April 26 th	Edward	John							Jane Maria	Beare	Aldershot	Saltwater	C. Fungus	No. 223.							<p>In Loving Memory of my dear husband, who passed away March 11th 1910, aged 84 years His end was Peace</p>
April 26 th	Edward	John																				
		Jane Maria	Beare	Aldershot	Saltwater	C. Fungus																
No. 223.																						



After the funeral, widowed Hannah Beare will have felt bereft with no children to offer comfort but she was strong. In 1911, Hannah filled in the census all alone. She stated that there were 3 rooms in the cottage. Was it really smaller than next door with their 4 rooms, probably 2-up-2-down?

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop. 3 rooms	I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief. Signature <i>H. Beare</i> Postal Address <i>Heath End Farnham</i>
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From 1912, Hannah Beare started voting in her own right as an Occupational Voter in Division 3.

DIVISION 3.—Persons entitled to Vote as County Electors and Parochial Electors, but not as Parliamentary Electors.			
Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Hannah Bear			
Guildford > 1912			
Bear, Hannah	Rowhills, Heath end	Dwelling house	Rowhills

Hannah left her cottage after 1914, moved to Horsell, Surrey to be with her widowed sister Phoebe and died in 1921, age 88 years. She was buried with her husband in Hale cemetery and her name is written on the headstone beneath that of her husband. (See photograph above.)

So, who was next in Rowhills Cottage after Hannah's departure? The Eltringham family moved in about 1918. Arthur Edward Eltringham (1880-1945) was brought up with his brother by his mother and step-father in Woolwich. His stepfather was a gunner in the Royal Artillery.

Arthur married, entered the Army and by 1911 he was a Sergeant in the 11th Hussars, training at Lydd, Kent. Lydd Ranges had been used for military training for over 150 years. After Lydd, Arthur served in Dublin where his two children were born.

Arthur's Army record shows a Quarter Master Sergeant, serving in Egypt in 1918. This provided him with clerical skills for future employment. Note his address of Rowhills Cottage.

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
ELTRINGHAM	Gen. List	*Lt. Col. Q.M.	
ARTHUR EDWARD			
Medal	Roll	Para.	Remarks
* M.C.	1027	1027	V. 10/31/18 4. 25 1/2 11/17/18 57
STAR			2 1/2 P 1 1/2 Q 1 1/2 R
Theatre of War first served in			
Egypt			
Date of entry theatre			
24-9-18			

Address, Rowhills Cottage
Heath End
Farnham

Arthur Eltringham and his wife Florrie, once settled into the area, registered for voting.

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Arthur Edward Eltringham			
Farnham > 1918			
478	Eltringham, Arthur Edward	Heath End	R O
479	Eltringham, Florrie	Do.	HO HO

The Eltringhams stayed in Rowhills for some years so we can meet them in another chapter.

Before we cross the road to Woodlands, let us enter Wells Copse, the land purchased by Henry Wells. The War Office had placed an advertisement in the local paper which has caught our eye. It concerns the nine acres around Hallimore Hill which they owned and no longer used.

SURPLUS LAND OF THE WAR OFFICE, ALDERSHOT, FARNBOROUGH and FLEET.
FREEHOLD BUILDING LAND, in convenient parcels, ripe for the erection of residences, cottages, an institution or factories, Land Tax and Tithe free.
MESSRS. WEATHERALL AND GREEN will Sell by Auction, at the Royal Hotel, Aldershot, on **TUESDAY, 5th MARCH, 1912**, at seven o'clock, in five lots, the following areas of **BUILDING LAND**:—
 1.—Well-timbered and elevated Land at **Hallimore Hill, Aldershot**, having good road frontages, affording a magnificent site for two or more high-class residences, a hospital or sanatorium; in two lots. Total area about nine acres.

Surplus land of the War Office offered for sale.

Well-timbered and elevated land on Hallimore Hill, Aldershot having good frontages, affording a magnificent site for two or more high-class residences, a hospital or sanatorium. Total area about nine acres.

Published: Saturday 24 February 1912
 Newspaper: Surrey Advertiser

This is land next to Woodlands in Rowhills. What did John Henry Wells make of that?

Talking of Woodlands, let us look at its occupants on the 1901 census. Firstly, how many rooms did Woodlands have? Oh, eleven. John Wells gives the address as Rowhills Estate, Heath End, Hale, Farnham, Surrey. (Note, the owners of Rowhills cottages did not state a cottage name.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop.

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature *John Henry Wells*

Postal Address *Woodlands Heath End Heath End Hants*

Eleven

It is worth looking at the original document that John Wells had filled in, putting his sons' ages in the wrong column. Well, we have all done that, surely?

1911 England Census											
Surrey > Farnham > ALL > 07											
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
1	John Henry Wells	Head	45	Married	22	10	10	0	Builder	731	Employer
2	Gertrude Wells	Wife		Married	22	10	10	-			
3	Dorothy Gertrude Wells	Daughter	20	Single							
4	Marjorie May Wells	Daughter	15	Single							
5	Winifred Muriel Wells	Daughter	13						school	390	school
6	Albert John Wells	Son	11						school		school
7	Percy Douglas Wells	Son	9						school	1	school
8	Leslie Wells	Son	7						school		sch
9	Sydney Wells	Son	6						school		
10	Raymond Wells	Son	4								
11	Maurice Dennis Wells	Son	3								
12	Mary Wheatley	nurse	77	Widow					certified nurse	437	
13	Lily Turner	Servant	22	Single					General Servant (domestic)	010	

John Henry Wells	Head	Mar	45		Builder	Aldershot
Gertrude Wells	Wife	Mar		45		Aldershot
Dorothy Gertrude Wells	Dau	Sing		20		Aldershot
Marjorie May Wells	Dau	Sing		15	School	Aldershot
Winifred Muriel Wells	Dau			13	School	Aldershot
Albert John Wells	Son			11	School	Aldershot
Percy Douglas Wells	Son			9	School	Aldershot
Leslie Percy G Wells	Son			7	School	Aldershot
Raymond Lionel Wells	Son			4		Aldershot
Maurice Dennis Wells	Son			3		Heath End
Mary Wheatley	Nurse	Widow		77	Certified nurse	Weymouth
Lily Turner	Servant	Sing		22	Gen servant (Dom)	Heath End

John Henry Wells stated he was an employer and builder. The parents had been married 22 years. Gertrude had had 10 living children but the form showed nine. Who was missing? The eldest, Reginald Wells now a 21-year-old law student was living a short distance away in Church Lane, Aldershot.

Just a brief look at the servant Lily Turner. She appeared to be the daughter of Henry Turner a bricklayer's labourer who was possibly working for the Wells builders and that might explain how she gained employment. The Turner family were living very close by.

Why was a nurse needed? Surely not for little Maurice who was the only one in the family born in Heath End. In 1901, the nurse Mary Wheatley was working in Aldershot as a sick nurse so that gives us a clue. She was in fact living in the house to attend to Mrs Gertrude Wells who sadly died in May 1911, shortly after the census was completed.

There will have been a sizeable funeral for Mrs Gertrude Wells. She was buried in Redan Road cemetery in Aldershot. Her husband had now lost a beloved wife and was left with nine children at home. This was three years after the death of his father Henry Wells in November 1908.



We first visited Woodlands in 1908 when the family of John Henry Wells moved in but we know nothing about out-buildings or stables.

In 1919 the Aldershot News reported a court case. John Henry Wells was trying to evict a tenant Alfred Kinge from Woodlands Cottage, who had not paid £15, nearly a whole year's rent. Alfred Kinge was a general labourer born in Red Lion Lane, Farnham in 1867, with a father being a bricklayer's labourer.

Surrey, England, Electoral Registers, 1832-1962 for Alfred Kinge	
Farnham > 1918	
Kinge, Alfred	Woodlands Cot., Heath End
Kinge, Annie	Do. do.

The property was at Rowhills and it is difficult know exactly where this was. The voting register shows Heath End so a possibility is on the grounds of Woodlands itself, possibly the stable/garage converted into a simple cottage, shown as a rectangle on the map.



EJECTION ORDER.
A COOL TENANT.
 On behalf of Mr. John Henry Wells, of Aldershot, Mr. J. T. Coggins asked for a warrant of ejection against Alfred Kinge, from a house at Rowhills.
 Mr. Coggins said that the application was made on two grounds—first, that the landlord required the house for his own occupation, and secondly that defendant owed £15 9s., nearly a whole year's rent. Even in these democratic days, when practically all legislation was in favour of the tenant, he (Mr. Coggins) did not think that they had yet arrived at the stage when one man could live in another man's house rent free.

tree.
 Mr. Percy Wells (Aldershot) gave evidence in support of the application. Defendant urged that he took the house three years ago, not for himself, but for his step-daughter's children. The step-daughter's husband, who was in the Army, had written that he would be glad to get home, when he would see everything was squared up.
 The Chairman: You are a weekly tenant. The rent is due every week, and you have not paid any for about a year.
 Mr. Coggins stated that Kinge's statement about the step-daughter's husband coming home was "not good enough."
 The Bench made the order asked for by Mr. Coggins, the Chairman saying that the defendant had offered no excuse whatever. He would have to give up possession in three weeks' time.

The supporting evidence in court was from Percy Wells, the architect, who was the younger brother of John Henry Wells. It might seem that in court Alfred Kinge was "economical with the truth". However, all of that was rejected and he was given 3 weeks to move out. Did he?

Before we leave the Wells family, there is a further piece of sad news to impart. The 1911 census at Woodlands had one son absent. He was Reginald Henry Wells, law student, living with his cousins and aunt at Ivinghoe, Church Lane, Aldershot. (Ivinghoe in Buckinghamshire was the home of Henry Wells, his brothers and his wife.)

Ivinghoe in Church Lane was the home of Frederick John Lloyd who had married Florence Elizabeth Wells.

Frederick John Lloyd	Head	38	Married	12	1	1	Architect
Florence Elizabeth Lloyd	Wife	33	Married	12	1	1	
Frederick Omar Griffiths Lloyd	Son	7					
Florence Rebecca Short	Cousin	30	Single				Housekeeper
Samuel Griffiths Wells	Brother-in-law	47	Single				Solicitor
Reginald Henry Wells	Nephew	21	Single				Law Student

Frederick John Lloyd	Head	38		Mar	Architect	Aldershot
Florence Elizabeth Lloyd	Wife		33	Mar		Aldershot
Frederick Omar Griffiths Lloyd	Son	7				Aldershot
Florence Rebecca Short	Cousin		33	Sing	Housekeeper	Ivinghoe
Samuel Griffiths Wells	Brother-in-law	47		Sing	Solicitor	Aldershot
Reginald Henry Wells	Nephew	21		Sing	Law student	Aldershot

Both Frederick Lloyd and Samuel Wells were employers. (Samuel Wells and his cousin Florence Short later married.) In the next eight years, Reginald Henry Wells passed his law examinations, served his articles in London and became a solicitor. He set up a law practice in Grosvenor Road, Aldershot and when his uncle Samuel Wells retired, Reginald became a partner in the law firm Foster and Wells (started by Sir William Foster).

Example of an advertisement
by Foster and Wells

Aldershot News, Friday 11 March 1910

FOR SALE, Freehold Cottage, Stable, etc., with 850 square yards of land, matured fruit trees, off main road, at Weybourne, Farnham, Surrey.—Particulars as to price, etc., apply, Foster and Wells, Solicitors, Aldershot.

When Reginald married Winifred Edith Lawes in 1915, his address was Woodlands, Heath End, Hale. The bride was from Woodland House, Cargate Terrace, Aldershot, a prestigious area.

1915. Marriage solemnized at Holy Trinity Church in the Parish of Aldershot in the County of Southampton

Column No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
157	July, 1915	Reginald Henry Wells	26	Bachelor	Solicitor	Woodlands Heath End, Hale Farnham	John Henry Wells	Independent
		Winifred Edith Lawes	24	Spinster		Woodland House Cargate Terrace Aldershot	James Edward Lawes	Automobile Engineer

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by James Edward Lawes after Verdict by me, John Henry Wells

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Reginald H. Wells and Winifred E. Lawes in the Presence of us, John Henry Wells

One year after their marriage, on the 1916 baptism record of their son Hugh Edward Griffiths Wells, the home address was stated as Firbank, Church Road, South Farnborough.

Surrey, England, Church of England Baptisms, 1813-1917 for Reginald Henry Wells							
Aldershot, Holy Trinity > 1916-1917							
Aug 20 1916	1916 Nov 2 No. 28	Hugh Edward Griffiths	Reginald Henry Winfred Edith	Wells	Firbank Church Rd. S. Farnboro'	Solicitor	J. H. Senior

(This may be a coincidence, but one of the early houses built in Rowhills on land possibly owned by the Wells family was named Firbank - now Badger Lodge.)

All seemed well and in 1918 the Coroner of Aldershot William Edward Foster appointed Reginald Wells as Deputy Coroner of Aldershot. Reginald was heavily involved with the District Chamber of Commerce, with sporting activities and with the Hampshire Volunteer Regiment.

When the Aldershot Company of the Hampshire Volunteer Regiment was formed, Mr. Wells was among the first to enlist, and with his characteristic thoroughness quickly mastered the technical and practical part of infantry training. He studied machine gun work and becoming expert in this special branch was appointed Machine Gun Officer of the battalion. His genial nature endeared him to all ranks of the Company, and the deepest regret was expressed when ill health compelled his retirement.

Then disaster struck and 29 year-old fit and healthy Reginald Wells developed pneumonia and died. Following the end of the Great War, the war to end all wars, Europe and America were gripped by a virus with the misnomer of "Spanish Flu". British press and other European publications suppressed the horrors of the deaths so as not to diminish morale but the Spanish press reported the pandemic, hence its name. The virus struck adults aged 20-40 so was unlike previous influenzas. It is commonly believed that the virus started in Kansas, USA. Estimates of deaths exceeded 20 million people.

"SPANISH INFLUENZA" IN PARIS.

PARIS, Sunday.—For some time past Spanish influenza has been commonly reported. This is ordinary influenza, but has spread with the rapidity of an epidemic. Dr Legroux, of the Pasteur Institute, questioned by the *Intransigent* regarding the epidemic, replied:—"It is not a serious malady. It began at the front early in May. From Dunkirk to the Vosges most of the soldiers were attacked by it, and the Germans were not immune. It is very infectious. The infection spread to Paris, then to Spain. The Spaniards made a great fuss about it. But for that it would not be noticed to-day."

The *Intransigent* concludes:—"France always appreciates what comes from abroad."—*Reuter*.

"It is not a serious malady. The Spaniards make a great fuss about it. But for that, it would not be noticed today."

The Scotsman
24 June 1918

The funeral took place yesterday afternoon as we were going to Press. The body, enclosed in a massive polished oak coffin, had been brought from Farnborough in the morning to Woodford, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lawes, parents of Mrs. Wells, from where the cortege started. All the public bodies of the town were represented at the funeral, which was attended by a muster of the Aldershot Volunteers. The first part of the burial service was held in Holy Trinity Church, which was attended by a very large number of family mourners and townspeople. A very large number of beautiful wreaths were sent.

The family mourners included: Mr. J. Wells (father), Mr. A. Wells (uncle), Mr. F. Wells (uncle), Mr. J. E. Lawes (father-in-law), Lieut. Owen Lawes and Dr. Wilson Smith (brothers-in-law), Capt. H. Lloyd, Mr. Fred Lloyd, Mr. Ewart Wort (cousins), Mr. C. Faulkner and Gentleman-Cadet R. Ross, Royal Military College. Mr. S. Wells (uncle) was too ill to be present, and Capt. E. Lawes (brother-in-law) was unable to reach England in time to attend.

Family mourners had a distinct lack of women. It was commonly regarded that funerals were for men. Family mourners included father, father-in-law, brother-in-law, uncles, and male cousins

Following some very detailed obituaries in the local newspaper, it was then natural for the solicitors to publish a covering declaration for any claims made against the estate of the late Reginald Henry Wells.

RE REGINALD HENRY WELLS,
DECEASED.

ALL Persons having any Claims against the estate of the late Mr. Reginald Henry Wells, of "Firbank," Church-road, Farnborough, Hants, also of Aldershot, Hants, Solicitor, who died on the 12th April, 1919, are requested to forthwith send in their claims to us the undersigned.

Dated this 15th day of April, 1919.
FOSTER & WELLS,
Solicitors for the Executrix.
Aldershot and Farnborough,
Hants. a516

Friday 25 April 1919
Aldershot News

There have been many bereavements mentioned in this chapter. Not only was this true for this area but for the country as a whole. Three quarters of a million British soldiers died during the First World War and many of those who returned were physically and mentally broken. Women were encouraged to stand aside from their new jobs so that returning soldiers could find employment.

Grand Victorian houses were in decline. The country had changed out of all recognition.

Such a lot on which to reflect. Let us go for some fresh air and an amble through the copse from Heath End to Weybourne, to Mr Todman's orchards in his market garden and to Rokeby and Rowhills. If we follow the Blackwater stream, the land is soggy so we had better don our galoshes.